



August 8, 2018

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## FACT SHEET

# Final Rule 22 - Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Revision to References for Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Sector To Incorporate Latest Edition of Certain Industry, Consensus-based Standards

### Action Modifying Use Conditions for Flammable Refrigerants

Section 612 of the Clean Air Act requires EPA to evaluate alternatives to ozone-depleting substances. EPA’s Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) program reviews substitutes on an end-use basis in a comparative risk framework, using the same risk criteria for all SNAP decisions. Section 612 requires EPA to list as acceptable those substitutes that do not present a significantly greater risk to human health and the environment as compared with other substitutes that are currently or potentially available.

EPA previously found three flammable refrigerants—*isobutane* (R-600a), *propane* (R-290), and *R-441A*—acceptable, subject to use conditions, in new household refrigerators, freezers, and combination refrigerators and freezers under the SNAP program (76 FR 78832, December 20, 2011; 80 FR 19454, April 10, 2015). This final action modifies the use conditions required for use of *isobutane*, *propane*, and *R-441A* in new household refrigerators, freezers, and combination refrigerators and freezers. The use conditions, which address safe use of flammable refrigerants, are being revised to reflect the updated UL Standard 60335-2-24.

### Final Rule

#### *What is included in this Rule?*

- Modifies use conditions for three hydrocarbon refrigerants

#### *Which industrial end-use is included?*

- Household Refrigerators and Freezers

#### *Who is affected?*

- Equipment manufacturers
- Service technicians

#### *When?*

- Effective on September 7, 2018

### ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVES, WITH MODIFIED USE CONDITIONS

End-Use	Substitutes	Decision	Use Conditions
<b>Refrigeration &amp; Air Conditioning</b>			
Household Refrigerators, Freezers, and Combination Refrigerators and Freezers (New)	Isobutane (R-600a), Propane (R-290), R-441A	Acceptable Subject to Use Conditions	Refrigerants may be used only in new equipment in a refrigerator or freezer, or combination refrigerator and freezer, that meets all the requirements listed in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition of the Underwriters Laboratories (UL) Standard for Safety: Household and Similar Electrical Appliance - Safety - Part 2-24: Particular Requirements for Refrigerating Appliances, Ice-Cream Appliances and Ice-Makers, UL 60335-2-24, dated April 28, 2017.